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Letter dated 8 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on Sierra Leone issued on 5 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 8 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Sierra Leone issued on 5 May 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union strongly condemns the actions taken by the Revolutionary United Front in Sierra Leone in direct violation of the Lomé Peace Agreement and is deeply disturbed by reports of the killing of UNAMSIL personnel.

Moreover, the European Union finds the detention of UNAMSIL civilian and military personnel and the attacks on UNAMSIL by the Revolutionary United Front totally unacceptable.

The European Union calls on the Revolutionary United Front, in particular its leader, Foday Sankoh, to cease all attacks against UNAMSIL, to release all detainees safely and unconditionally, and to implement fully their commitments under the Lomé Peace Agreement, including the implementation of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme.

The European Union reiterates its strong support for the Lomé Peace Agreement and for the efforts of the United Nations to fulfil its mandate in Sierra Leone.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.